

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated.

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Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:
 One Year \$11.00
 Six Months 6.00
 Three Months 3.00
 One Month 1.00
 Delivered by Carrier, \$1.25 per Month.

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Entered at the postoffice in Tonopah as second class matter.

END OF THE COAL STRIKE.

With a wild saturnalia of the elements the coal strike was terminated in a manner befitting the magnitude of the struggle between the coal barons and the coal miners. The latter developed more strength as the true state of affairs was unfolded from the beginning where it was made to appear that the workers were simply desirous of asserting the brute strength of the organization in which they were united. At first it appeared that the miner was wholly at fault and unconscionable in his demands but, as the inquiry of the fuel administrator reached down into the depths of the real issue, it was found that the workers were in a measure justified in asking what they did. Their demands for the five day week and the six hour day was founded on the necessities of the men who proved to the satisfaction of a dispassionate jury that they were not receiving what was coming to them. The five day week meant that the men should be guaranteed at least 260 days of work every year. This was the crux of the situation: The mine owners had been playing football with the workers who never knew when they would be employed or when they would be laid off, so that in the long run they were unable to earn a minimum of the wage they were credited with making. The rapacity of the coal operators was disclosed when the government commission pulled the income tax returns on the autocratic operators providing conclusively that they were netting between 75 and 150 per cent on their sales of coal without any justification in market conditions to warrant the profiteering. The fact that the coal barons preferred to accept the dictum of the fuel administration rather than make a showdown on their illicit profits is an index of the greed of power that is, in a measure, responsible for the wave of bolshevism that is filtering through the industrial masses and which unscrupulous leaders do not fail to take advantage of. The wage increase has been ordered without any corresponding increase in selling costs and the acceptance brands the operators as a horde of ravenous monopolists who gloat over their ability to exact their pound of flesh from a long suffering public notwithstanding the fact that their insistence plunged the whole nation into dire distress. At this distance from the seat of trouble it seems that Secretary of Labor Wilson, himself a coal miner, should have seen the value of placing the miners before the public in their true light and not allow a misconception of their demands to take possession of the public mind. More publicity of the right sort would have provided a short cut to a settlement and changed the sentiment of the nation from antagonism to one of practical sympathy with the workers.

ANOTHER BOOST FOR SILVER.

Curtailment of the copper production following the sharp decline of the red metal to 19 cents is bound to have a serious effect on the stock of silver in the markets of the world. It is well known that several of the largest producers of copper realize their best profits from their silver by-product and with copper curtailed it follows that there must ensue a corresponding diminution in the visible supply of silver. Authorities agree that copper is going lower and it is seriously suggested by London bankers that silver must be devalued. The absurdity of the proposition is obvious when it is known that the present demand for silver arises from the commercial requirements of China and the Orient where the crops are now filtering on to the markets of the world after four years stagnation superinduced by a shortage of marine freighters. During the world's war when the rest of the universe was engaged in a death grapple with the forces of autocracy India and China were busy in farm and field piling up commodities for which the world is craving. There was no outlet for the accumulation until tonnage was released from carrying troops, munitions and food-stuffs to sustain the armies engaged in hostilities. With the restoration of traffic to normal lanes of travel the Oriental countries were first to dispose of their enormous surpluses, which in turn engendered a demand for silver settlements. No other form of exchange will be accepted either in China or India where the hundreds of millions in habitants are wedded by thousands of years of traditions to the white metal.

SILVER IN THE ASCENDANT.

No single commodity is receiving one half the attention of silver. Men who would not deign to discuss the buoyancy of silver two years ago are rushing into print with their theories and arguments for overcoming a shortage that cannot be displaced without an increased production. Such daily newspapers as the New York Herald and the Boston Evening Post, which seldom carried more than half a line quoting values of silver bullion, in small type on the financial page, are now engaged in ventilating the supply and demand in columns of able treatises dealing with the rise, fall and restoration of silver as a money metal. These articles gain first page prominence backed by erudite editorials with the result that silver is the best advertised issue of the day. Eastern people who rarely ever saw a silver dollar, are beginning to sit up and take notice, which provokes a demand for the treasury and mint officials to explain their action in permitting a rival nation to secure 300,000,000 silver dollars from the United States treasury at a dollar an ounce to defray engagements, having in view retention of the hold that nation had on the Oriental trade. Southern oil securities have been delegated to second and third place in the financial pages as it is manifest that this class of paper has been much inflated through the well directed publicity campaign of their promoters. Oil is becoming a drug and many of the latest discoveries have been choked down to save the market from sudden collapse. The world is turning to silver and in course of time when the money market in New York resumes its normal course, silver stocks will hold a commanding position on their intrinsic value of producers and the potentialities of prospects.

One of the really impressive points made every week or two in the literature put over by a Philippine Independence press bureau at Washington is the statement of how friendly all the Japanese statesmen are to complete Philippine independence of the United States.

It is said that President Poincare will become a newspaper man when he retires from office. Wouldn't you thing he had already had enough trouble?

One good way to conserve white paper and at the same time promote

the public good would be to abolish the Sunday comic supplement.

It may also be safely said that there is one gent who will never be bothered by a gag rule, and that is Kernal House.

Announcement that the coal shortage will result in the curtailing of the hours of electric lighting service will be good news for the fond lovers everywhere.

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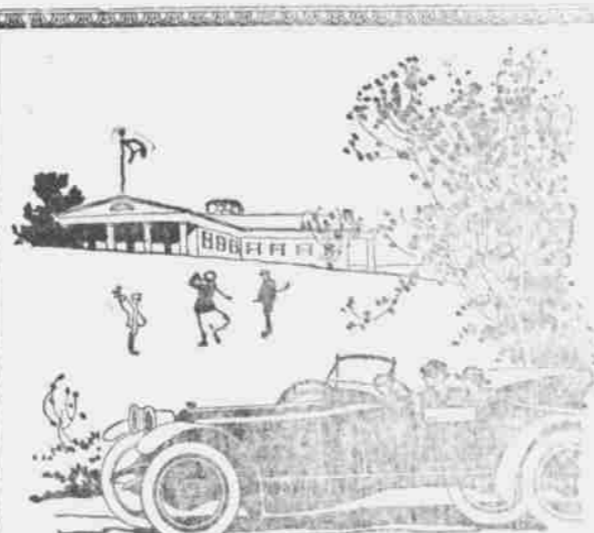
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